

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A bill validator comprising:

(a) a bill inlet; (b) a pathway coupled to said inlet; (c) a transportation portion and a validation portion provided in said pathway; (d) an outlet provided at one end of said pathway; and (e) a plurality of pathway selectors provided at a position nearer to said inlet than one of said transportation portion, wherein said plurality of selectors select said pathways in respective different phases for said pathways to form a ~~cross~~ blocking between said plurality of pathway selectors in every pathway selection.

2. (Original) The bill validator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of pathway selectors comprise a pair of approximately semi-cylindrical shaped blocking gates laid down across said pathway and a driving portion to rotate said pair of blocking gates around axes synchronously for opening and closing said pathway.

3. (Currently Amended) The bill validator of claim 2, wherein said pair of blocking gates are disposed such that cross-sectional surfaces of said blocking gates are positioned to form a rotational symmetry with each other.

4. (Original) The bill validator of claim 2, wherein cylindrical periphery of said blocking gates have a plurality of different cylindrical shapes and concaved portions in said pathway to dispose said blocking gates are formed copying said cylindrical periphery.

5. (Currently Amended) The bill validator of claim 4, wherein said pair of blocking gates are disposed such that the maximum peripheral surface of one of said blocking gates faces against the minimum peripheral surface of another of said blocking gates.

6. (Original) The bill validator of claim 2, further comprising a controlling portion to restrict rotation of said blocking gates in one direction only.

7. (Original) The bill validator of claim 6, further comprising a canceling portion to cancel functions of said controlling portion temporarily to rotate said blocking gates freely in both directions.

8. (Original) The bill validator of claim 2, further comprising: a driving base; a gear clutch coupled to said driving base; and an electrical magnet to restrict movements of said gear clutch in one direction only, wherein the transportation portion is coupled to one driving shaft to which said gear clutch is coupled when said electrical magnet is energized and the other driving shaft is to work as a driving portion for said blocking gates.

9. (Original) The bill validator of claim 8, further comprising a hook wheel on a driving shaft coupled to said transportation portion, wherein a stopper to restrict said transportation portion by engaging with said hook wheel, when said gear clutch is engaged in the other driving shaft, is incorporated with said gear clutch.

10. (Original) The bill validator of claim 6, wherein a ratchet mechanism driven by a solenoid is employed as said driving portion, and said ratchet mechanism works also as a control portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The bill validator of claim 1, wherein said plurality of pathway selectors ~~have has~~ a pair of gate plates across said pathway ~~with in~~ a direction of said bill thickness.